



## Alerta de Artículos recientes y sitios en internet sobre Medio Ambiente

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Tenemos el agrado de presentarle una bibliografía en MEDIO AMBIENTE como parte de nuestro Servicio de Alertas. Este servicio se basa en el ofrecimiento de artículos aparecidos recientemente en publicaciones de los Estados Unidos, haciéndole llegar una relación de los mismos con sus resúmenes. También, se incluye una relación de sitios en Internet.

### Apoyo al Medio Ambiente

**1. RAISING GLOBAL STANDARDS: HAZARDOUS SUBSTANCES AND E-WASTE MANAGEMENT IN THE EUROPEAN UNION.** Henrik Selin and Stacy D. VanDeveer. "Environment" December 2006

Many electrical and electronic products contain substances that are hazardous to human and ecosystem health, making their disposal a difficult but increasingly important task. The European Union has issued some influential directives to reduce e-waste and prevent hazardous substances from reaching the waste stream, explain the authors.

### Areas Naturales

**2. A GLIMPSE OUT THE WINDOW: LANDSCAPES, LIVELIHOODS, AND THE ENVIRONMENT.** Ruth DeFries, Gregory P. Asneer, and Jonathan Foley. "Environment" – October 2006

As human society develops, agriculture and urbanization shape the land in increasingly complex ways to fulfill human needs. Such a changing landscape can have unexpected effects on health, society, and the environment, say the authors.

### Biodiversidad

**3. FORECASTING THE EFFECTS OF GLOBAL WARMING ON BIODIVERSITY.** Daniel B. Botkin, et all. "Bioscience" March 2007

The demand for accurate forecasting of the effects of global warming on biodiversity is growing, but current methods for forecasting have limitations. In this article, the authors compare and discuss the different uses of four forecasting methods: 1) models that consider species individually; 2) niche-theory models that group species by habitat; 3) general circulation models and coupled ocean-atmosphere-biosphere models, and 4) species-area curve models that consider all species or large aggregates of species. After outlining the different uses and limitations of these methods, they make eight primary suggestions for improving forecasts. They find that greater use of the fossil record and of modern genetic studies would improve forecasting methods. They note a Quaternary conundrum: While current empirical and theoretical ecological results suggest that many species could be at risk from global warming, during the recent ice ages surprisingly few species become extinct. The potential resolution of this conundrum gives insights into the requirements for more accurate and reliable forecasting. Their eight suggestions also point to constructive synergies in the solution to the different problems, explain the authors.

**4. UPHILL BATTLE.** Michael Tennesen. "Smithsonian" – August 2006

Biologist Lee Hannah of Conservation International says that of 25 biodiversity hot spots worldwide that conservation groups say deserve special protection, the tropical Andes is the richest by far. The region has almost twice as many plant species and four times as many endemic plants—native species found nowhere else in the world. Here, Tennesen relates his experience with biologists and field assistants exploring the tropical Andes and describes the effects of changing climate on high-altitude forests.

## Bosques Tropicales

**5. FOREST CERTIFICATION IN DEVELOPING AND TRANSITIONING COUNTRIES: PART OF A SUSTAINABLE FUTURE?** Benjamin Cashore, Fred Gale, Errol Meidinger, and Deanna Newsom. "Environment" – November 2006

Forest certification emerged in the early 1990s as a market-driven way to limit the destruction wrought on tropical forests, giving consumers, retailers, and manufacturers the opportunity to purchase products derived from environmentally and socially responsible forest operations. Although certification caught on in the developed world, it has struggled in developing countries, where it is most needed. What must happen to garner support for certification?, ask the authors.

**6. FORO ÁREAS PROTEGIDAS AMAZÓNICAS.** La información está disponible en la página Web de la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA) en Internet:  
<http://www.oas.org/dsd/Events/spanish/07.03.14.htm>

Este foro se realizó el 14 de marzo, 2007, en la fundación Espacio Suizo en Caracas, Venezuela. El objetivo fue compartir conocimientos para estimular el trabajo articulado y discutir los valores y amenazas con el fin de aumentar el apoyo público y organizado a cargo de bioparques, con la participación de representantes de la Organización IVIC, Instituto Botánico de Venezuela y el Ministerio del Poder Popular del Ambiente.

**7. AMAZON COOPERATION TREATY ORGANIZATION (ACTO) – ORGANIZACIÓN DEL TRATADO DE COOPERACIÓN AMAZÓNICA (OTCA).** The ACTO is an international organization aimed at the promotion of sustainable development of the Amazon Basin. Its member states are: Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, Guyana, Peru, Suriname and Venezuela.

La información se puede obtener en Internet en la siguiente dirección:  
<http://www.otca.org.lr/ep/>

## Clima

**8. CLIMATE CHANGE 2007.** “Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change” - The IPCC 4<sup>th</sup> Assessment Report is coming out. A comprehensive and rigorous picture of the global present state of knowledge of climate change.

Este informe se podrá obtener en Internet en la siguiente dirección: <http://www.ipcc.ch/>

**9. WHY THE FROGS ARE DYING: CLIMATE CHANGE IS NO LONGER MERELY A MATTER OF NUMBERS FROM A COMPUTER MODEL. WITH STARTLING SWIFTNESS, IT IS REORDERING THE NATURAL WORLD.** Mac Margolis. “Newsweek” (international ed.) – October 16, 2006

An ark of plants, insects and animals flourishes in the cool misty mountains. Gradually, though, a warming trend has raised nighttime temperatures and increased cloud cover, which makes for cooler days by blocking solar radiation. The subtle change, which might go unnoticed by the bipeds, is thought to have been ideal for chytridomycosis, a disease caused by a waterborne fungus that has flared up throughout tropical Central and South America. Scientists believe the chytrid disease kills the frogs by blocking their natural ability to absorb water through their porous skin (and perhaps also by releasing a toxin), essentially causing them to die of dehydration. What really frightens researchers, however, is the potential implications of the die-off, explains the author.

**10. AHEAD IN THE CLOUDS.** Virginia Morell. “Smithsonian” – February 2007

Susan Solomon helped patch the ozone hole. Now, as a leader of a major United Nations report—out this month—she’s going after global warming. When the United Nations and the World Meteorological Organization release their first major report on global climate change in six years, two things are likely to happen. Some people will dismiss it. And Susan Solomon will grow hoarse explaining why they shouldn’t, say the author.

**11. GLOBAL WARMING: A TIME TO ACT.** Dianne Feinstein. “Vital Speeches of the Day” – January 2007

Address by Dianne Feinstein, U.S. Senator, Democrat of California. Delivered to Town Hall Los Angeles, Los Angeles, California, October 25, 2006.

## Contaminación

**12. POLLUTION CONTROL IN CHINA’S HUAI BASIN: WHAT LESSONS FOR SUSTAINABILITY?** Xuemei Bai and Peijun Shi. “Environment” – September 2006

In 1994, the Chinese central government took on the Herculean task of cleaning up the Huai River basin. After 10 years, the effort was declared a success. Then a devastating flood struck, washing record levels of polluted water downstream and rapidly eroding the public’s trust. What went wrong?, ask the authors.

# Desarrollo Sostenible

## **13. PRIMERA REUNIÓN INTERAMERICANA DE MINISTROS Y ALTAS AUTORIDADES DE DESARROLLO SOSTENIBLE.**

La información puede ser ubicada en la página Web de la Organización de Estados Americanos (OEA) en Internet:

[http://www.oas.org/dsd/MinisterialMeeting/ReunionInterAm\\_spa\\_v1.htm](http://www.oas.org/dsd/MinisterialMeeting/ReunionInterAm_spa_v1.htm)

La Primera Reunión Interamericana de Ministros y Altas autoridades de Desarrollo Sostenible se llevó a cabo en Santa Cruz de la Sierra, Bolivia, el 4 y 5 de diciembre del 2006. La Declaración realizada en la reunión está disponible en inglés, francés, español y portugués.

## Educación Ambiental

**14. USING THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT TO ENGAGE YOUTH IN URBAN ECOLOGY FIELDS STUDIES.** Michael Barnett, Charles Lord, Eric Strauss, Camelia Roisca, Heather Langford, Dawn Chavez, and Leah Deni. "The Journal of Environmental Education" – Winter 2006

Recent science education reform proponents explicitly put forward the idea that all students, regardless of culture, gender, race, or socioeconomic status, are capable of understanding and doing science. To address this need, the authors have developed and implemented a field-based urban ecology science program to engage traditionally underrepresented groups, such as minorities and women in real-world science. The authors describe the components of the program and discuss why the program has been successful in providing opportunities for all students to engage in and learn science. Using mixed methods to evaluate the program, they found that it improves students' interest in science, supports students in developing a better understanding of scientific methodologies, and improves students' sense of environmental stewardship when compared with students experiencing traditional science instruction over the course of an academic year, explain the authors.

**15. TEACHING THROUGH MODELING: FOUR SCHOOLS' EXPERIENCES IN SUSTAINABILITY EDUCATION.** Amy Lyons Higgs and Victoria M. McMillan. "The Journal of Environmental Education" – Fall 2006

In this article, the authors examine how 4 innovative secondary schools model sustainable practices to their students. During school visits, the authors conducted interviews, observed daily life, and reviewed school documents. They found that modeling is a valuable approach to sustainability education, promoting both learning about sustainability and adoption of sustainable behaviors in these schools. The four primary means by which the schools model sustainability are individual role models, school facilities and operations, school governance, and school culture. Other schools interested in sustainability education will likely find these approaches to modeling useful, explain the authors.

**16. THE PIEDMONT PROJECT: FOSTERING FACULTY DEVELOPMENT TOWARD SUSTAINABILITY.** Arri Eisen and Peggy Barlett. "The Journal of Environmental Education" – Fall 2006

Many universities recognize urgent environmental dilemmas and embrace efforts to move campus operations and university culture toward sustainability. However, the broader academic mission across departments and programs is often slower to connect with sustainability efforts. The Piedmont Project at Emory University offers one model of a faculty development program that has fostered an enriching collaborative experience and has created considerable impact across the university, explain the authors.

**17. A COMPARISON BETWEEN A TRADITIONAL AND AN ONLINE ENVIRONMENTAL EDUCATIONAL PROGRAM.** Constantine Aivazidis, Maria Lazaridou and Gustav F. Hellden. "The Journal of Environmental Education" – Summer 2006

The authors compared traditional and Web-based versions of an environmental education program in terms of their effectiveness in raising knowledge and promoting attitudes of environmental issues. They used a pretest post-test nonequivalent control group quasi-experimental design. Results showed a statistically significant increase of knowledge scores for both groups. The junior high students who received computer-assisted instruction (CAI) significantly outscored their peers who were taught traditionally in post-test knowledge scores. In addition, the CAI group demonstrated a significant increase in attitudes scores. The authors found the correlation coefficient between knowledge and attitudes to be statistically significant but low.

## Energía

**18. ENERGÍA RENOVABLE: EN BUSCA DE LA FUENTE INAGOTABLE.** Michel Eckhart. Obtenido de Internet:  
<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/ites/0706/ijes/eckhart.htm>

Una ampliación considerable de la energía renovable en todo el mundo requerirá políticas gubernamentales innovadoras, un ambiente de inversión estable y predecible y de la transferencia de tecnología a los países en desarrollo, dice el autor.

**19. PUTTING ENERGY EFFICIENCY IN A SUSTAINABILITY CONTEXT: THE COLD FACTS ABOUT REFRIGERATORS.** Jack N. Barkenbus. "Environment" - October 2006

Dramatic energy efficiency improvements in U.S. refrigerators — a nearly ubiquitous appliance and the centerpiece of most kitchens — might seem to

indicate the beginning of a tilt toward sustainability. However, other major social trends have served as counterweights against such progress, says the author.

**20. REINVENCIÓN DE LA RUEDA: REVOLUCIONAR LA EFICIENCIA DE LOS AUTOMOTORES.** Amory B. Lovins. Obtenido de Internet:

<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/ites/0706/ijes/lovins.htm>

Esta en marcha una revolución en la eficiencia automovilística que puede llevar al mundo más allá del uso del petróleo, a medida que los fabricantes de automotores comiencen a utilizar materiales más livianos, aerodinámica más estilizada, propulsión híbrido-eléctrica y combustibles que no están relacionados con el petróleo, dice el autor.

**21. RENACER DE LA ENERGÍA NUCLEAR.** James A. Lake. Obtenido de Internet:

<http://usinfo.state.gov/journals/ites/0706/ijes/lake.htm>

El resurgimiento de la energía nuclear promete galvanizar la generación de electricidad en todo el mundo y en contribuir a mitigar temores sobre las emisiones de gas de efecto invernadero, pese a las dificultades que todavía habrá que salvar. A largo plazo, la energía nuclear puede llegar a ser más segura y económica, resistente a la proliferación y sostenible, dice el autor.

**22. THE LUGAR ENERGY INITIATIVE – DRIVING THE FUTURE OF ENERGY SECURITY.** Senator Richard Lugar. Obtenido de Internet:

<http://lugar.senate.gov/energy/links/patriot/>

Energy security is a worldwide concern. As Chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, Senator Lugar seeks to explore the myriad ways in which energy issues shape American behavior towards and interactions with other nations. He has organized numerous hearing to address these topics.

**23. TWENTY IN TEN: STRENGTHENING AMERICA’S ENERGY SECURITY.** “The White House Office of Communications.” Obtenido de Internet:

<http://www.whitehouse.gov/stateoftheunion/2007/initiatives/energy.html>

President Bush is asking Congress and America’s Scientists, Farmers, Industry Leaders, and Entrepreneurs to join him in pursuing the goal of reducing U.S. gasoline usage by 20 percent in the next ten years – Twenty in Ten. For too long, the U.S. has been dependent on oil. This dependence leaves Americans more vulnerable to hostile regimes and to terrorists, explains the White House.

## **Población**

**24. DRY: THREE STORIES OF ADAPTATION TO LIFE WITHOUT WATER.** Daniel Schaffer, Ehsan Masood, Ivonne Ndege, Pallava Bagloa, and Katie Mantell.



“Environment” – January/February 2007

The almost one billion people who live in the dry lands of the developing world face the daily challenge of getting enough fresh water for drinking, cooking, washing, and agriculture. Not all solutions to water problems are created equally: It is often necessary to tailor specific strategies to specific peoples and places. Stories from three different continents explain how dry land dwellers get the water they need to survive, say the authors.

**25. AGENCIA DEL CONGRESO QUIERE MEJOR REPARTICIÓN DE AYUDA ALIMENTARIA DE ESTADOS UNIDOS.** Kathryn McConnel, Redactor del Servicio Noticioso desde Washington. Obtenido de Internet:

<http://usinfo.state.gov/xarchives/display.htm?p=washfile-spwish&y=20071m=March&x=20070323/30251liameruoyo.5344507>

Los funcionarios de los principales organismos encargados de distribuir las donaciones alimenticias de Estados Unidos dicen estar trabajando para mejorar la entrega de esa ayuda después de conocerse un nuevo informe del gobierno criticando la coordinación entre las agencias encargadas, dice la señor McConnell.

**26. INVESTING IN THE YOUTH BULGE.** Emmanuel Y. Jimenez and Mamta Murthi. “Finance and Development” – September 2006

Falling fertility rates in most developing countries have led to a “youth bulge” that will be the next generation of workers, parents, citizens, and leaders. The number of young people aged 12-24 stands at 1.3 billion and is expected to rise to about 1.3 billion in 2035 and decline gradually thereafter. This trend results from the interplay between declining fertility and what demographers call population momentum. The authors explain that with the right investments, developing countries can turn their large youth populations into a boon.

**27. MULTINATIONAL CORPORATIONS AND GLOBAL POVERTY REDUCTION.** George Lodge and Craig Wilson. “Challenge” – May/June 2006

The authors argue that multinational corporations have contributed and can continue to contribute enormously to the reduction of global poverty. The authors grant that public corporations exist to maximize value for their shareholders. But with the creation of a new institution, the authors believe that the energies of multinational corporations can be oriented toward reducing global poverty without undermining shareholder value.

## **Varios:**

**28. AN INDIAN TRUST FOR THE TWENTY-FIRST CENTURY.** Kevin Mover. “Natural Resources Journal” – Spring 2006

Congress should clear path for tribes that wish to use their primary capital asset—land—to create the financial resources needed to build viable reservation economies. By doing so, Congress will bring the

trust into the twenty-first century, explains the author.

**29. RACHEL CARSON – PEN AGAINST POISON.** Obtenido de Internet: <http://usinfo.state.gov/products/pubs/carson/> - Marzo 9, 2007.

Rachel Carson was a woman who stirred extraordinary controversy that persists decades after her death. Her 1962 book “Silent Spring” brought worldwide attention to the harm to human health and the environment wrought by mishandling of a powerful pesticide, fomenting the environmental movement. In the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary year of Carson’s birth, this publication examines how occasionally in history a book with a powerful idea can bring about peaceful but dramatic change in a democratic society.

## **Sitios en Internet para obtener información sobre temas de Medio Ambiente:**

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA):

<http://www.epa.gov>

National Park Foundation

<http://www.nationalparks.org/>

Nature Watch

<http://www.fs.fed.us/outdoors/naturewatch/>

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

<http://www.noaa.gov>

Bureau of Land Management

<http://www.blm.gov/nhp/index.htm>

Department of Energy’s NEPA Web Site

<http://www.eh.doe.gov/nepa/>

Department of the Interior

<http://www.doi.gov/>

Endangered Species Program

<http://www.fws.gov/endangered>

EPA’s National Center for Environmental Economics

<http://yosemite.epa.gov/ee/epa/eed.nsf/pages/homepage>

Fish and Wildlife Service

<http://www.fws.gov/>

Forest Ecosystems Dynamics

<http://forest.gsfc.nasa.gov/>

Great Lakes Information Network

<http://www.great-lakes.net/>

National Service Center for Environmental Publications

<http://www.epa.gov/ncepihom/>

National Climatic Data Center

<http://lwf.ncdc.noaa.gov/oa/ncdc.html>

EPA’s Office of Pollution Prevention and Toxics

<http://www.epa.gov/opptintr/>

Fort Collins Science Center Online

<http://www.fort.usgs.gov/>

Minerals Management Service

<http://www.mms.gov/>



Office of Surface Mining  
<http://www.osmre.gov/>  
USDA Forest Service  
<http://www.fs.fed.us>  
Climate Vision  
<http://www.climatevision.gov/>  
White House Council on Environmental Quality  
<http://www.whitehouse.gov/ceq/>  
EPA - Beaches  
<http://www.epa.gov/beaches/>  
Marine Protected Areas of the United States  
<http://www.mpa.gov/>  
National Resources Conservation Service  
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/>  
Carbonfund.org  
<http://www.carbonfund.org>  
Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
<http://www.ipcc.ch>  
Pew Center on Global Climate Change  
<http://www.pewclimate.org>  
River Network  
<http://www.rivernetwork.org/index.cfm>  
Property & Environment Research Center  
<http://www.perc.org>  
National Recycling Coalition  
<http://www.nrc-recycle.org>  
U.S. Global Change Research Information Office  
<http://www.gcrio.org>  
U.S. Office of the Federal Environmental Executive  
<http://www.ofee.gov>  
EPA: Recycle City  
<http://www.epa.gov/recyclecity/>  
The Adirondack Council  
<http://www.adirondackcouncil.org>  
American Bird Conservancy  
<http://www.abcbirds.org>  
American Wilderness Coalition  
<http://www.americanwilderness.org>  
Friends of the Earth  
<http://foe.org>  
Kids for Saving Earth Worldwide  
<http://www.kidsforsavingearth.org>  
Keep America Beautiful  
<http://www.kab.org>  
Jack Miner Migratory Bird Foundation  
<http://www.jackminer.com>  
Defenders of Wildlife  
<http://www.defenders.org>  
World Wildlife Fund  
<http://www.wwf.org>  
The Nature Conservancy  
<http://www.nature.org>